Pending Cases in Karnataka High Court

3736. SHRI B. K. HARIPRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are more than 9 vacancies in the Karnataka High Court for the last one and half years and, if so, reasons for delay in filling the vacancies;

(b) whether it is also a fact that due to delay in filling up of the vacancies, there are more than 1.20 lakh cases pending for disposal; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that a proposal for the establishment of another bench in North Karnataka has not been favourably considered and whether this is also causing accumulation of more cases at Bangalore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) As on 15.12.92, there were 9 vacancies of permanent/ Additional Judges in the Karnataka High Court. These vacancies arose on different dates between 2nd August, 1991 to 1st July, 1992. Appointments of High Court Judges are made on recommendations from the State authorities in terms of article 217 (1) of the Constitution of India. Recommendations for filling up 4 vacancies of Judges in the Karnataka High Court have been received on 11.12.92 from the State Constitutional authorities of Karnataka and the process of consultation for filling up all the vacancies is on.

(b) 86, 971 cases were pending in the Karnataka High Court on 30.6.91 on account of various reasons, including delay in filling up of vacancies.

(c) No complete proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka, in consultation with the Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court, non-establishment of a High Court Bench in North Karnataka may not contribute to accumulation of cases in the High Court.

Recruitment of Judicial Officers in Delhi

3737. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi High Court had conducted an examination for recruitment of Judicial Officers in October, 1991;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the number of candidates who appeared in the said examination had given representation against the result of written examination, if so, what are the details thereof and action taken thereon;

(c) whether some of the candidates who did not qualify for interview were called for interview after the representations, if so, what are the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(d) what steps were taken to ensure that results of other candidates who did neither qualify for interview nor give any representation, were assessed rightly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In all 9 candidates who appeared in the examination had made representations against the written examination and the answer-books of each representations/candidate were rechecked and found that all the answer recorded in their answer books were awarded marks and the totalling of the so awarded marks was correct and therefore, their representations have been rejected.

(c) and (d) After the declaration of the result of the examination, an exercise was undertaken to recheck the answer-books of all the candidates who appeared in the examination. As a result of this exercise it was noticed that as against 140 marks obtained by a